

**Remarks**

The Office required election of one species chosen from film-coated tablets, multiparticulate pellets, multiparticulate minitabets, wax matrix systems, polymer matrix tablets, polymer coated tablets, oral osmotic systems, coated tablets, matrix tablets, press-coated tablets and multilayer tablets. Applicant elects film-coated tablets. Claims 21-22, 24-39 read on the elected species.

Applicant respectfully requests prompt examination and allowance of the pending claims. If any fees are required to enter this response, Applicant authorizes the Commissioner to charge Account No. 19-0134, in the name of Novartis.

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation  
One Health Plaza, Bldg. 101  
East Hanover, NJ 07936  
(862) 778-5442

Date: October 23, 2009

Respectfully submitted,



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